

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Friday - 14 January 1955

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Box 1

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1. Sen. Mansfield has introduced S. Con. Res. 2 to establish a Joint Committee on Central Intelligence. In addition to himself there are 32 co-sponsors for the bill. It is noted that as introduced, the bill is a Concurrent Resolution which does not require the signature of the President to become law. (As circulated in draft by Sen. Mansfield it had been a Joint Resolution). The resolution has been referred to the Senate Committee on Rules, 3 of whose 9 members (including Sen. Mansfield) are co-sponsors of the resolution. 9 of the co-sponsors are members of the 15-man Senate Foreign Relations Committee. 7 of the co-sponsors (Senators Duff, Flanders, Mrs. Smith, Welker, Ervin, Jackson and Kefauver) are members of the Senate Armed Services Committee. 19 of the co-sponsors are Democrats and tend to represent the liberal wing of the Democratic Party with the exception of Senators Daniel, Ervin and George. The co-sponsors of the resolution are: Senators Barrett (Wyo.), Beall (Md.), Capehart (Ind.), Chavez (N. Mex.), Cotton (N. Hamp.), Daniel (Tex.), Duff (Penn.), Ervin (N. Car.), Flanders (Vt.), Fulbright (Ark.), George (Ga.), Green (R. I.), Hill (Ala.), Humphrey (Minn.), Jackson (Wash.), Kefauver (Tenn.), Langer (N. Dak.), Lehman (N. Y.), McNamara (Mich), Malone (Nev.), Morse (Ore.), Mundt (S. Dak.), Murray (Mont.), Neely (W. Va.), Neuberger (Ore.), Pastore (R. I.), Payne (Me.), Smathers (Fla.), Mrs. Smith (Me.), Sparkman (Ala.), Welker (Ida.), Young (N. Dak.).

2. Senator Saltonstall informed me that he has written a letter to the DCI concerning the resolution and would like to talk about it with him. It is recommended that we invite Senator Saltonstall down to luncheon as soon as possible, or if this is not possible arrange for a meeting with him in his office.

3. Mr. Smart, Counsel to the House Armed Services Committee, pointed out to me that if the Mansfield resolution were to pass the Senate, it would be referred to the Rules Committee in the House, and that it would be very doubtful if Chairman Smith would allow any measure to come out of the Rules Committee in this field which did not have the full approval of Chairman Vinson.

4. Mr. Houston and I discussed with Mr. Roger Jones, Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Budget for Legislative Reference, the question as to whether the proposed Overseas Allowances Act of 1955, as general legislation, would in any way overrule the specific authorities of the CIA Act of 1949. Mr. Jones is of the opinion that our specific authorities will not be overridden; that we can utilize the provisions of the Overseas Allowances Act of 1955; but that our authority for expenditure of unvouchered funds was in no way impaired. Mr. Jones suggested that we also clarify this point with the General Counsel for the Comptroller General. Mr. Jones also urged that we secure a CIA building by direct appropriation rather than lease-purchase, and he was much opposed to the lease-purchase plan for CIA construction.

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